

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Pending claims 1, 7, 13 and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 as allegedly being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection. In this regard, claim 1 has been amended to indicate that recited method is a computer-implemented method in which the claimed determining is performed in a processor. Accordingly, claim 1 and its dependent claims recite statutory subject matter. With respect to claim 7, it has been amended to indicate that the machine-readable instructions are executed by a processor-based system. Accordingly, claim 7 and its dependent claims recite statutory subject matter. With respect to claims 13 and 19 the recited structures, which clearly include machines, namely registers, storage and processors having application tied to a technological art and resulting in practical application providing a concrete, useful, and tangible result, are recited as including storages that include instructions executed by the processor in claim 13 (and the system in claim 19). Accordingly, all claims recite statutory subject matter.

Pending claims 1, 7, 13 and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 5,471,626 (Carnevale). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection. As to claim 1, Carnevale nowhere teaches setting an indicator bit of an update indicator storage within a portion of a register to indicate an update to another portion of the register. In this regard, the Office Action appears to contend that map field 126 of Carnevale corresponds to the second portion, and more particularly to an indicator bit of an update indicator stored within this portion. However, Carnevale only teaches that this map field 126 is used to indicate presence of which control field types in a control word. Carnevale, col. 7, lns. 6-11. Such map field 126 is used in Carnevale to control what execution stages within a processor pipeline the control word 124 enters. Carnevale, col. 7, lns. 16-19.

Accordingly, there is no update indicator in Carnevale. This is especially so, as Carnevale nowhere teaches how this map field portion is updated, and whether any such updates to the map field are performed on an update to corresponding control fields of control word 124. In fact, it appears that the opposite is the case. That is, control fields within control word 124 (apparently contended to be the first portion of the register) can be updated without affecting the corresponding bit within map field 126. For example, address generation control field 130 can have its values changed (i.e., its contents updated) and the corresponding A bit of map field 126 will not change, as map field 126 only indicates whether a control field is present. Thus if a

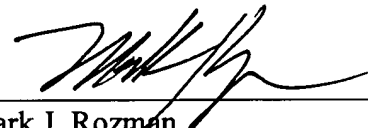
control field is present and its value is updated, the corresponding bit of map field 126 does not change. For at least this reason, claim 1 is patentable over Carnevale. For at least the same reasons pending claims 7, 13, and 19 are similar patentable.

For the same reason that the independent claims are not anticipated by Carnevale, so to do the recited independent claims and claims depending therefrom patentably distinguish under §103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 4,740,893 (Buchholz) in view of Carnevale alone, or over these references in view of further secondary references. This is especially so, as the combination of Carnevale with Buchholtz fails to teach or suggest the use of update indicators in a portion of a register to indicate an update to another portion of the register.

In view of these remarks, the application is now in condition for allowance and the Examiner's prompt action in accordance therewith is respectfully requested. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 20-1504.

Respectfully submitted,

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